



CITY OF RUTLAND
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
RUTLAND, VERMONT

Robert Protivansky
Commissioner

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PUBLIC NOTICE
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
Rutland City Water Dept, VT 0005229
Levels of HAA5 Above Drinking water Standards

Our water system recently exceeded drinking water standards. Although this is not an emergency, customers have the right to know what happened.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Test results from the four quarters ending with the fourth quarter 2023 show that our system exceeded the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5).

The Standard for TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) is 60.0 UG/L.
The running annual average from the last four quarters at our system was 60.5 UG/L.

What should I do?

The drinking water standard (MCL) is based on lifetime exposure to TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) which may increase your risk of getting cancer. Continuing to drink the water is a personal decision that you must make for yourself by considering the health risk, cost, and convenience. You may choose to use bottled water from an alternate source.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. Drinking water containing TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) at this concentration will not lead to any short-term effects such as vomiting, diarrhea, and stomach pains.

Haloacetic acids and trihalomethanes are organic chemicals that form when chlorine disinfectant reacts with natural organic matter in water.

Some people who drink the water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. In animal studies, some haloacetic acids have been associated with reproductive or developmental effects.


What happened? What is being done?

Due to an abnormally wet summer and fall we have experienced higher than normal organic levels in our raw water supply. Elevated Total Haloacetic acid test results in the third and fourth quarters contributed to this MCL exceedance.

We are working with the State of Vermont department of Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection Division to minimize the formation of HAA5. While ensuring we maintain an adequate level of disinfectant. As mandated by the Vermont Water Supply Rule. We are also exploring options to remove the natural organic matter that contributes to the formation of HAA5.

For more information, please contact the Department of Public Works at 802-773-1813 Or the Department of Public Works P.O. Box 969 Rutland, VT 05702.

Please share this information with all the people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "B. Protivansky", is written over a horizontal line.

Bob Protivansky

Commissioner of Public Works